

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 23-27 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:**

The reason is as follows: in the conventional techniques, the input image is compared with a plurality of reference images of respective objects; if the number of objects is  $M$  and the number of reference images of each object is  $L$ , therefore, image comparison must be conducted at least  $L \times M$   $X$   $M$  times.